

Substitute Bill No. 6407

January Session, 2009

*____HB06407PS___031009____

AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE AND EXPENDITURES FROM THE SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND MARINES FUND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 27-140 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):

3 All money so paid to and received by the American Legion shall be 4 expended by it in furnishing food, wearing apparel, medical or 5 surgical aid or care or relief to, or in bearing the funeral expenses of, 6 soldiers, sailors or marines who (1) performed service in time of war, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, in any branch of the military service of the United States, including the Connecticut 8 National Guard, or [who] were engaged in any of the wars waged by 10 the United States during said periods in the forces of any government 11 associated with the United States, [who] (2) have been honorably 12 discharged therefrom or honorably released from active service 13 therein, [and who were citizens or resident aliens of the state at the 14 time of entering said armed forces of the United States, including the 15 Connecticut National Guard, or of any such government, or to their 16 spouses who are living with them, or to their widows or widowers 17 who were living with them at the time of death, or dependent children 18 under eighteen years of age, who may be in need of the same] and (3) 19 were citizens or resident aliens of the state upon application for and while in receipt of assistance under this section. The spouses living with such soldiers, sailors and marines, the widows or widowers who were living with such soldiers, sailors and marines at the time of death of such soldiers, sailors and marines, or the dependent children under eighteen years of age of such soldiers, sailors and marines, shall receive payments under this section. All such payments shall be made by the American Legion under authority of its bylaws, which bylaws shall set forth the procedure for proof of eligibility for such aid, provided payments made for the care and treatment of any person entitled to the benefits provided for herein, at any hospital receiving aid from the General Assembly unless special care and treatment are required, shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 17b-239, and provided the sum expended for the care or treatment of such person at any other place than a state-aided hospital shall in no case exceed the actual cost of supporting such person at the Veterans' Home, unless special care and treatment are required, when such sum as may be determined by the treasurer of such organization may be paid therefor. The treasurer of such organization shall account to the Governor and the General Assembly during the months of January, April, July and October for all moneys disbursed by it during the three months next preceding the first day of either of said months, and such account shall show the amount of and the name and address of each person to whom such aid has been furnished. Upon the completion of the trust provided for in section 27-138, the principal fund shall revert to the State Treasury.

Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2009*) In the event the Comptroller uses state funds to make up the difference between the expenditures from the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund and the interest income of said fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the state shall be reimbursed for the amount of any such state funds from the principal of the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund.

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This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2009	27-140
Sec. 2	July 1, 2009	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners: In subdiv. (3) of section 1, "the" was inserted before "dependent" for clarity.

VA Joint Favorable Subst. C/R PS

Joint Favorable PS